

How to Write a Play Review

Heading

- Give title, playwright, and type of play.
- Give date of production, place, and name of performing group.
- Include a program of the play with your review.

Essay Outline

- I. Theme of play (main subject matter or message of the play)
- II. Atmosphere (Tell how it was expressed in the scenery, lighting, and sound effects.)
- III. Brief summary of story or plot
- IV. Technical evaluation
 - A. Setting/Scenic design
 - B. Lighting
 - C. Costumes
 - D. Sound design
 - E. Acting evaluation
- V. Were the actors convincing in their roles?
 - A. Did all characters work together to create ensemble or did some detract by not doing what they should?
 - B. How did voice/movement affect believability?
 - C. Did the actors underplay or overplay their parts?
 - D. Were there any outstanding performances? (Give specific examples and details.)
- VI. Directorial evaluation
 - A. Did the stage stay comfortably balanced?
 - B. Did all aspects of the production communicate the same concept or feeling or were some distracting?
 - C. Did this production interpret the script to your satisfaction?
 - D. Was the director's concept true to what you think the playwright intended?
 - E. Were any aspects of the production confusing?
 - F. Personal opinion (You may discuss any aspect of the play you wish, but give reasons to justify and explain your beliefs.)